

WASHINGTON

Another Interesting Phase in the Impeachment Question.

Eight Republican Senators Counted Upon as Favoring Acquittal.

The Arkansas Admission Bill Passed in the House of Representatives.

Protest of the South Carolina Conservatives Against the New Constitution.

WASHINGTON, May 8, 1868.

The feeling in relation to impeachment movements of the Radical Senators—Eight Republicans Claimed as Ready to Vote for Acquittal.

For the last few days the air has been filled by the storm of impeachers here in Washington with assurances of the President's conviction and removal. No radical for a moment allowed himself to be caught in the expression of a doubt as to this result, and by the constant repetition of an assumed conviction in a verdict of guilty being rendered by the court. Even a good many democrats had their fears aroused, and shook their heads dubiously at the mention of an acquittal. The betting men in the republican ranks counted the conservatives with being afraid to desert the assertion, though offered heavy odds, that no two-thirds majority would be found prepared to convict the President. In fact, the radicals had it all their own way during the preceding part of this week, and seemed to make it a point to cause the very atmosphere of Washington to breathe impeachment and removal. They were ever ready to bet, and even offer odds, in the over-sanguine character of their professed expectations.

To-day, however, there is a decided change of tone, and if ever acquittal appeared the manifest result of all this impeachment commotion it seems more certain now than before. The impeachers of the same type were better off this morning, and of a less consistent stripe frowned on both sides. The votes in secret session yesterday, published this morning, are looked upon as significant in the sense that the Senate is determined not to be moved by the clamor for a hot and hasty verdict. Senators Sumner, Drake, Conkling and a dozen others demanded an immediate judgment, and in the hurry of the moment might have rushed conviction through, but such men as Senators Grimes, Anthony and Fessenden were determined that the trial shall have a mature and deliberate conclusion. Eight instead of seven Senators are reckoned upon this evening as sure for acquittal, and the hopes of the conservatives are proportionately elevated.

The Senators are making the best possible use of the time allowed them for revision by the adjournment of the Court until Monday next, by filing from point to point wherever it seems possible to pick up a good idea or drop one that will be likely to produce a desirable effect. To try the least, there is a great deal of consultation going on, and the chief engineers of the radical party—Senators Sumner, Drake, Conkling and a dozen others—have been seeing each other very frequently to-day at General Grant's headquarters and the War Department.

The Jacobin convulsion at the War Department, presided over by that illustrious bone-of-contention, Mr. Stanton, has been in vigorous operation for the past two or three days, and the inference generally drawn from the restlessness shown by the impeachers is, that there are troublesome and perplexing questions which have suddenly sprung up that need for their solution all the combined wisdom of the radical ring.

Among the visitors who made a long stay at the headquarters of the General to-day was Senator Cameron. It is said that the Senator has been greatly exercised in mind about the report that General Grant has said if the President is acquitted he would decline the nomination for the Presidency. Mr. Cameron, it is said, wanted to know if General Grant did make such a remark, and if he did what induced him to make such a remark. After leaving General Grant Senator Cameron immediately repaired to the War Department council.

The President was also the recipient of numerous calls from conservative and democratic Senators and Representatives, and Messrs. Stanley and Groesbeck had an interview with him in the morning.

The betting to-night is even, but not very extensive, and the numbers wishing to risk small odds. Reconciliation to Congress from the White People of South Carolina Against the New Constitution.

Colonel J. P. Thomas, J. G. Gibbs and Colonel L. D. Childs, representing the State Central Executive Committee of the democratic party of South Carolina, came hither to present to Congress a remonstrance on the part of the white people of South Carolina against the constitution recently adopted by the Reconstruction Convention. To-day the committee appeared before the Reconstruction Committee of the House of Representatives. Mr. Stevens received them with courtesy. Colonel Thomas, chairman of the committee and representing the State Central Executive Committee, remarked that in analyzing the proposition of the constitution for South Carolina there were two objections which stood out in bold relief—unqualified negro suffrage and the taxation power. He argued to show their disastrous effects upon both races. The constitution established taxation by industrial agencies. We will carry on this political contest until we regain the control which of right belongs to the power of mind and the influence of virtue. Nor can we have prosperity in the South under your reconstruction scheme; but give the South a fair showing, restore the States to the Union on a just basis, and again will our people return with willing hearts to the Union, and the same energy, that same self-sacrifice, the same valor which they gave to the "lost cause" will they give now to the Union, provided you meet them in a spirit of just magnanimity, and concede to them the rights to which they deem themselves entitled.

The remonstrance, which is quite lengthy, is signed by Wade Hampton, John P. Thomas, Joseph Daniel Pope, F. W. McMaster, Samuel McTear and W. M. Shannon, State Central Executive Committee, and references the position taken by the conservatives as the late State Convention, recognizing the "colored population" in the State as an integral element of the body politic, and concludes as follows:

In behalf of the democratic party of South Carolina, which embraces nearly every white inhabitant, and many of the colored people, the committee declare that this policy represents the political sentiment of the State. We offer this in good faith, as the basis of a true, genuine and lasting reconstruction. This we earnestly believe, is the peaceful solution of the great question of white man and black man in the South. This solution we offer to the conservation of the country, as one alike advantageous to both races. Let it be accepted; let the great question of the black man be removed from the high court of the land, and let all our people North, South, East and West be permitted harmoniously and earnestly to address themselves to the great work of individual improvement and national

improvement—then again may we expect a return to the Union in fact as well as in name.

The Reconstruction Committee this morning agreed to report the constitution of South Carolina, with an agreement inserting a proviso about suffrage similar to one inserted in the Arkansas constitution.

Republican Candidate for Mayor of Washington.

Bayles J. Bowen, Postmaster of Washington, was this afternoon nominated by the Republican City Convention candidate for Mayor. The delegates were white and black. He received 92 of the 105 votes cast.

Florida, California.

Representative Schenck received a despatch this afternoon from Florida, stating that the constitution has been adopted and the Legislature is republican.

Modification of the Test Oath.

The substance of a letter from General Canby to General Grant, published yesterday, was but a portion of a correspondence on the question of a modification of the test oath between the military district commanders and the General-in-Chief. General Canby first wrote to Grant asking that the matter be brought to the attention of Congress, as many able, influential and loyal men in the Second Military district were debarred from taking an active part in reconstruction owing to their previous connection with the rebellion. In this communication General Canby states that he construes the ninth section of the late Reconstruction act as applying to the cases in question. Subsequently General Meade, commanding the Third Military district, wrote to Grant referring to the identical question, and asking whether the test oath in the late Reconstruction act applied to former rebels, but now loyal men, who desired to assist in the work of reconstruction—be holding, contrary to General Canby, that the Reconstruction law did not apply. The question came before General Meade for decision in the cases of Lieutenant General Gordon and Mr. Irwin, who were selected as candidates for office, and was decided by him in favor of these men. General Grant wrote to General Meade confirming his view of the question. General Grant stated that in his opinion the ninth section of the Reconstruction act did not apply to such cases, and that in settling them regard should only be paid to the fourteenth article amending the United States constitution and the constitution of the State in which such questions may arise.

Adjustment of the American Medical Association.

The American Medical Association adjourned to-day to meet in New Orleans on the first Monday in May, 1868. The delegates have been entertained by some of the most distinguished residents during their stay here, and before their adjournment passed resolutions tendering thanks to President Johnson, Speaker Colfax, Chief Justice Chase, Mayor Wallach and others for courtesies to the association.

The Speaker of the House Misrepresented.

The insertion of an unauthorized word in Monday's proceedings, as printed in some of the newspapers, but which does not appear in the telegraphic copy, has done injustice to the Speaker of the House. It gives his reply to Mr. Donnelly's inquiry that "he was glad if members could settle their differences." The fact was he declined answering the question at all, but added "that he was always gratified at the settlement of such differences between members upon the floor."

THE FORTIETH CONGRESS.

Second Session.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, May 8, 1868.

Mr. STEWART, (dem. of N. Y.), presented a protest of the American Free Trade League, W. C. Bryant, President, against the passage of the bills to aid in the construction and employment of American built steamers, and to provide for an American line of mail and emigrant steamships.

Mr. MC CARTHY, (rep. of N. Y.), presented a petition of the lumber dealers of Syracuse, N. Y., for a change of duties on imported lumber from ad valorem to specific.

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

Mr. HUBBARD, (rep. of Cal.), presented memorial and joint resolution of the Legislature of California, asking aid for rail and wagon road purposes in California.

Mr. PLANDER, of Washington Territory, introduced a bill to aid in the construction of a railroad from Walla Walla river to the Columbia river, which was referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

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THE PROPOSITION TO EXPEND.

Mr. BURTON, (rep. of Mass.), offered a resolution to amend the Journal by striking therefrom all record of the resolution proposed yesterday by Mr. Robinson, in which he proposed to amend the Constitution of the United States.

THE SPEAKER stated that the resolution had not been entered on the Journal, inasmuch as it had not been agreed to by a question of privilege.

Mr. BURTON stated that he would then withdraw his resolution.

AGREEMENT TO ADJOURN UNTIL MONDAY.

On motion of Mr. WOODWARD, (dem. of Pa.), it was agreed to adjourn until Monday at twelve o'clock.

PRIVATE BILLS.

The House then proceeded to regular order of business in the morning hour of Friday, being the call of committees for bills of a private character.

The bill to incorporate the Connecticut American Park Association, in the District of Columbia, which had been ordered to be engrossed and read a third time the last day the House was engaged on private bills, was taken up, read a third time and passed.

Mr. WILSON, (rep. of Iowa), from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill to amend the act of William McKim, the bill contains a grant made by the President to Vincent Gomez, in 1844, of the Pancho Grande Rancho, in California, and by Gomez to his son, Mr. Edith, in 1848. The land was known as the New Adria quicksilver mine, in California.

The report, which recites the history of the case at great length, was being read when the morning hour expired.

Mr. WILSON asked unanimous consent that the bill be considered under disposed of, as he had to leave the city.

Mr. STEWART objected.

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